

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
EASTERN DIVISION**

IN RE: NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION	*	MDL 2804
OPIATE LITIGATION	*	
	*	
THIS DOCUMENTS RELATES TO:	*	CASE NO. 1:17-MD-2804
	*	
<i>Applies to All Cases</i>	*	JUDGE DAN AARON POLSTER

STATUS REPORT

NOW COMES, MORRIS & DICKSON CO., LLC (“M&D”), who for a response to the Court’s Order of April 21, 2022 (Doc #4380), respectfully represents:

INTRODUCTION

M&D was founded in 1841 and has operated continually for the past 181 years. It is a privately held drug wholesale distributor and operates out of a single distribution center in Shreveport, Louisiana. M&D ships 100% of its drug volume out of its Shreveport warehouse and serves retail independent pharmacies, hospitals, and alternate care clinics such as nursing homes in 17 states.¹ The vast majority of M&D’s customers are located in five states, namely, Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Mississippi, and represent ninety-four percent (94%) of all sales.

OPIOID LITIGATION

M&D has been named as a defendant in 241 cases in the Ohio MDL.² M&D was recently added as a defendant in three cases in the Texas State MDL pending in Harris County, Texas. M&D was very recently sued in two Tennessee state court cases. To-date, there has been no discovery directed to M&D.

SETTLEMENT

M&D has not been approached by the PEC or any other plaintiff regarding settlement. M&D is interested in pursuing settlement negotiations. M&D prefers to retain an outside mediator and thereby include the PEC and counsel in the state court cases in negotiations.

¹ The states include Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Missouri, New Mexico, Kentucky, Kansas, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio and Oregon.

² M&D has been sued in eight New York cases pending in the MDL. M&D had no sales in New York. M&D requested a voluntary dismissal of the cases but received no response.

BELLWETHER CASES

M&D anticipates that both the Texas State MDL and the Tennessee state cases will be aggressively pursued by Plaintiffs' counsel. Accordingly, M&D suggests that any additional bellwether trials and/or bellwether tracks are not warranted or necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

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ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT,
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Undersigned counsel hereby certifies that on the 16th day of June, 2022, the foregoing was served via CM/ECF system which will automatically send email notifications to all counsel of record.

s/Stephen E. Chappellear
OF COUNSEL